



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR JERRY SANDERS FACT SHEET

CITY AWARDED LARGE STATE GANG-PREVENTION GRANT

Mayor Jerry Sanders announced today that San Diego has been awarded a \$369,309 state grant to keep young people away from gangs. This is the second time since 2008 that San Diego has received a state Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) grant.

“Keeping kids away from gangs is one of the biggest challenges facing all California cities, including San Diego,” Mayor Sanders said. “This grant allows us to continue the remarkable progress we’ve made in this crucial area.”

The mayor congratulated the Police and Park & Recreation departments, who used the money from the 2008 grant to help reduce gang-related criminal activity in the central and southeastern neighborhoods of San Diego. According to police statistics, gang crimes dropped 15 percent in central and 23 percent in southeastern in the year after San Diego received the 2008 CalGRIP grant.

The city will use this year’s grant money for several initiatives, including extending the Friday-night hours of the recreation centers in Southcrest, City Heights, Memorial and Encanto. Police will also work with Metro United Methodist Urban Ministry to identify and help those young people most at risk of joining a gang.

Mayor Sanders also thanked the groups that helped the city win this year’s grant, including Metro United, SANDAG, San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency and the San Diego Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention.